



Saguaro National Park (West)

Naturalist Program Schedule

Programs meet at the Red Hills Visitor Center, 2700 N. Kinney Road, and last 30 to 45 minutes, unless noted otherwise. Program schedules are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5158 for updates or to make **RESERVATIONS**. *Programs marked with an * are wheelchair accessible.*

December 21 - December 27, 2009

Monday – December 21

11:15 a.m. Road Kill! Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road? – Patio Talk*

National Parks and others work to put a stop sign on road kill. Find out the extent of the problem and how you can help.

2:15 p.m. Neighborhood Characters

See if you recognize plant versions of your friends and relatives as you take a 30-minute nature walk in the Red Hills Visitor Center neighborhood.

Tuesday – December 22

10:15 a.m. God's Dog & Desert "Pigs"

An introduction to two of our most common desert mammals: the coyote and the javelina. - *Walk*

Wednesday – December 23

2:15 p.m. Those Who Came Before – Patio Talk*

Learn about the Hohokam (those who are gone), who inhabited this area from A.D. 300 to A.D. 1450.

Thursday – December 24

2:15 p.m. Geology of the Tucson Mountains – Patio Talk*

This program explores how the Tucson Mountains came to be where they are now, their composition and forces that built and continue to shape them.

3:15 p.m. Signs of Life in the Desert

Enjoy an easy ½ mile walk around the Red Hills Visitors' Center to look for evidence of animal life.

Friday - December 25

Happy Holidays! Visitor Center Closed.

Saturday - December 26

10:15 a.m. Homesteading Adventures in the Desert – Patio Talk*

Join a park ranger as she presents the oral history surrounding Mexican American Homesteaders' adventures around Saguaro National Park communities.

11:15 a.m. The CCC and its Impact on Saguaro National Park – Slide Program*

The Civilian Conservation Corps, a Depression-era work program that had a great influence on National, State, and County parks throughout the Nation. Saguaro's trails, picnic areas, and scenic drives were established during this program. A brief history of the CCC in this area will be presented by a park ranger, using PowerPoint slides of old photographs and movies.

2:15 p.m. Critter of the Week – Patio Talk*

Meet one of the live animals found in the Sonoran Desert. What will it be? A snake? Scorpion? Tarantula? Tortoise? Come and find out.

3:00 p.m. Wildlife Rehabilitation – Guest Speakers – Talk*

Janet and Lewis Miller have operated Wildlife Rehabilitation of NW Tucson for 16 years. The goal is to care for orphaned and injured wildlife. Come and find out why some are not able to be reintroduced back into the wild. Meet an Elf Owl, Great Horned Owl, and a Harris Hawk up close.

Sunday - December 27

10:15 a.m. Homesteading Adventures in the Desert – Patio Talk*

Join a park ranger as she presents the oral history surrounding Mexican American Homesteaders' adventures around Saguaro National Park communities.

11:15 a.m. Road Kill! Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road? – Patio Talk*

National Parks and others work to put a stop on road kill. Find out the extent of the problem and how you can help.

2:15 p.m. Neighborhood Characters

See if you recognize plant versions of your friends and relatives as you take a 30-minute nature walk in the Red Hills Visitor Center neighborhood.

4:00 p.m. Twilight Glow to Moon Shadows – Talk/Hike

An easy 2.5 mile, 3-3.5 hour stroll that allows us to experience the desert in the twilight glow and then discover the mystic moon shadows which will accompany us to the end of the hike. **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED call 520-733-5158**